water resources and regional development for these areas alongwith the date on which such proposals were received and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether it is also a fact that such proposals are lying pending for years and the persons who have submitted these proposals have not received and information; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a)and(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that doordarshan has mounted special programmes for border areas from DDK, Guwahati, DDK, Jalandhar, DDK, Srinagar and Kashmir Channel.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that eight proposals for making documentary on water resources and regional development in the North East have been approved during March, 2003. These proposals were received during the year 2002.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that proposals which are complete in all respects are processed expeditiously as per the extent guidelines.

Introduction of News Bulletin in Assamese

3953. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the implementation status of the special package for NER showing total outlays, amount utilized during 2002-2003 against each of the schemes being executed, indicating proposed allocation during 2003-2004, head-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the implementation status of the introduction of separate daily News Bulletin in Assamese and Mishing languages from DDK and AIR, Dibrugarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The state-wise details of the schemes approved under North East Special Package is given in the Statement. *(See* below)

(b) A five minutes daily news bulletin in Assamese is already being mounted from AIR, Dibrugarh. A five minutes weekly news bulletin is

also being mounted in Misr it jg, dialect from the station. At present, there is no proposal to start daily news bulletin in Mishing from AIR, Dibrugarti. Presently, there is no separate daily news bulletin in Assamese and Mishing from Doordarshan Kendra, Dibrugarh. The Kendra is relaying daily news bulletin in Assamese, telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Guwahati.

Statement

Status of Projects approved by EFC

A—ALL INDIA RADIO

SI. No.	State	Place	Project	Target	Total Outlay (24.80 Cr.)	Actual Exp. (2003-04)	SBG (2002-03)
1.	Assam	Guwa-hati	Upgra-dation of CES	2003-04			
2.	Meghalaya	Shillong	Upgrada tion of CES	2003-04	600.0 Lacs	305.0 Lacs	40.0 Lacs
3.	Arunachal	Itanagar	Upgrada tion of CES	2003-04			
4.	Nagaland	Kohima	10 KW FMTr. & studio	2003-04	610.0 Lacs	12.0 Lacs	180.0 Lacs
5.	Arunachal	Itanagar	-do-	2003-04	610.0 Lacs	170.0 Lacs	186,0 Lacs
6.	A. & N. Island	Port Blair	10 KW FM Tr. Studio & S/Qrs.	2003-04	66O.0 Lacs	174.0 Lacs	234.0 Lacs

B—DOORDARSHAN

Scheme	Approved Outlay Capital cost 2003-2004 (Rs. crores)	Exp. during 2002-2003 (estimated) (Rs. crores)
1	2	3 4
Upgradation of 5 HPTs (1 KW to 10 KW) at Shillong (Meghalaya) Kohima (Nagaland) Aizawl (Mizoram) Imphal (Manipur) Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)	21.70	11 57 7.75

1	2	3	4
Satellite Earth Stations at Shillong (Meghalaya) Aizawal (Mizoram)	14.52	8.24	3.5
Satellite Videophones	1.65	0.64	0.40
Cable Headends—160 no. 20 in each NE state viz. Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tnpura, Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh	7.15	7.15	_
TOTAL	45.02	27.60	11.65

Conditional Access System for four metropolitan Cities

3954. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Conditional Access System has been made compulsory for four metropolitan cities with effect from July, 2003;

(b) whether Government have fixed the subscription to be charged by cable operators;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is likely to be the price of set top boxes and how it is proposed to be collected from the subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 4A of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1955, the Central Government has notified 15th January, 2003 as the date within six months from which, it shall be obligatory for every cable operator to transmit/re-transit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system in the four metro cities, namely Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi.

(b) and (c) Government has fixed the monthly subscription for basic service tier of free-to-air channels and this is to be notified shortly.

(d) The price of Set-Top-Boxes will be driven by market forces. Different business models are likely to emerge in the market in order to make the same available to the subscribers. Initially, the demand is likely to be met by imports till indigenous production capacity is installed. It is expected that prices would fall with increase in volumes.